

# The Times-Dispatch

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1909.

## SUFFERING FROM COLD.

Winter has fallen upon the city with a suddenness and vigor which must bring distress to many homes. Opportunities to earn money have been much curtailed for a year, and there are large numbers of families which have been long having a struggle to make both ends meet. To the food and clothing and rent of the mid-month's budget is now added the urgent necessity of fuel.

The need of heat in freezing weather is as elemental as the need of something to eat in all weather. In a Christian and prosperous community like Richmond, no one should be allowed to suffer from cold, any more than from starvation. The Associated Charities was organized for the express purpose of aiding the city's rich to help the city's poor, and they will now welcome contributions for the immediate alleviation of misery and distress.

## CONGRESS.

What Congress did yesterday, it did well. To this everybody, regardless of his personal opinion as to the merits of the controversy, will doubtless agree. Neither in the resolutions of the special committee, nor in the introductory remarks of Representative Perkins, is there one word that could possibly be described as angry. The language of the resolutions, in especial, is calm, dignified and statesmanlike. That is the strength of both these documents. They are quite free from excitement, passion or ill-treatment. In the soberest and most serious way, as befitted the grave duty upon which it was engaged, Congress has asserted its own dignity and administered an almost unprecedented rebuke to the President of the United States.

To this newspaper it has seemed that the determination to find the President guilty of amazing charges against the character of Congress as a whole was not well founded. The improbability of such an intent on his part is apparent, and he has expressly disclaimed that purpose. Nor, since that disclaimer is held ineffectual, does it appear that his original language necessarily carries that meaning. The wish of "the Congressmen" not "to be investigated" certainly need not mean, as Mr. Perkins says, that such a suggestion means "that their votes were controlled by a craven fear of the detection of their crimes." That "wish" is more easily explained upon the hypothesis that Congressmen, however upright, might naturally object to the nuisance of espionage from the Treasury Department, and would not conceive it to be appropriate for them to submit to it. Was not that, in fact, the reason that Congress voted for the amendment? Or, if not, what was the reason?

But this is beside the mark now. The House believes that the President's first message carried a reflection upon its integrity which its second message failed to remove. It is only fair to add that the bulk of opinion through the country seems to support this view. It is quite true, further, that language which is of doubtful meaning upon such a point as this could not be admitted without embarrassment to the permanent record of Congress. Representative Perkins is on solid ground when he says that, however inadvertent may have been the President's choice of words, "expressions" should not "remain in his message which might be interpreted by the people as lessening the dignity and thereby weakening the authority of Congress." Convinced that its honor stood impugned, Congress was right to express that conviction effectively. It has done this, it seems to us, in a way which reflects real credit upon it, and which will certainly enhance the confidence of the people in their national legislature.

## DEFICITS AND TARIFF DUTIES.

The proposal to put an import duty on coffee is undoubtedly due, or at least excused by, the condition of the public finances. For the year ending June 30th last the Treasury shows a deficit of \$64,000,000. For the year ending June 30th next, the estimated Treasury deficit is \$114,000,000. While present administrative extravagance continues, the one way to wipe out these deficits is by seeking new sources of revenue.

Throughout our history tariff legislation has been shaped, if not ordinarily prompted, by the state of the revenue. The high tariff act of 1842 grew out of a depleted Treasury. Fifteen years later an overflowing Treasury resulted in substantial reductions of duties. A deficit in 1861 was at least part of the pretext for the Morrill act of that year, whose scale of duties was pushed far higher by the war tariff of 1864. Large imports in the years succeeding the war rolled up a redundant revenue, and this resulted in the 10 per cent. horizontal reduction of 1872. Depletion of the government income was the excuse for restoring

the old rates three years later. Large and increasing Treasury surpluses in 1882 were the occasion for the act of 1883, embodying the first tariff revision, apart from the curiosity of 1872, since the war. Similar considerations shaped the McKinley bill of 1890, which, despite its high protective features, was designed to make a revenue reduction of some \$66,000,000. Again, the marked falling off of import receipts in the panic period of 1893 was at least partly the occasion for the Dingley act of 1897.

The general national policy has thus been to meet a Treasury shortage by the rough-and-ready method of hoisting import duties, regardless of other considerations. The abnormally high range of the duties at present, combined with an indignant popular demand for reduction of them, makes it somewhat doubtful whether the tariff framers will attempt to follow this method next spring. Their inclination toward a purely revenue article like coffee supports this belief, but it will hardly be regarded as a satisfactory settlement. It is, at best, an unfortunate thing that the questions of national revenue and economic policy should, in this and almost every other country, be so hopelessly intertwined. The two questions, obviously, have little or nothing to do with each other.

## THE GENTLEMAN FROM TENNESSEE.

Hon. Bourke Cockran's oratorical onslaught upon Hon. John Wesley Gaines was entirely malicious and uncalled for. Moreover, the facts which he employed as the basis for it are certainly open to question. Mr. Cockran specifically declares: "In the first session of the present Congress he (Gaines) delivered no less than 2,000 speeches." We doubt very much if a scrutiny of the Record would sustain any such enumeration, our own impression being that Mr. Gaines did not make more than the even 2,000 speeches at the utmost. As for this further utterance of Mr. Cockran's the less said about it the better: "My handsome friend not only make 2,000 speeches himself, but he assisted nearly every other member in making his."

The fact that such meaningless and cruel gibes could be greeted by "a roar of laughter" speaks ill indeed for the temper and spirit of the House. Noble oratory has become in that place, it seems, a by-word and a hissing. Grace and frequency of vocabulary, beauty of sentiment, grandeur of thought, intimate familiarity with the poets, plenitude of fancy, a supple yet colossal mind—these things are a reproach for low kinds to mock at. We have little doubt that Demosthenes himself, were he alive in these evil days, and representing Indiana in the House, would regularly be howled down and hooted to his committee-room.

Both as to quantity and quality alike John Wesley Gaines wields the grandest vocal instrument that has been heard in Washington in a generation. There is no range of emotion that it cannot cover, no depth of cogitation that the master mind behind it cannot compass. As all speech is John Wesley Gaines' ready servant, so all knowledge is his mapped and charted province. The intellectual world is his plate of Lynnhaven. From the economic and political conditions prevailing in Northern Syria to the trimming of misses' hats and the provender for teething infants, from the most exalted to the lowliest, his perfect mind wanders and weighs at will, and his silver voice pours forth a torrent of tremendous truths. If the House scoffs at him, that fact fixes the place in history, not of John Wesley Gaines, but of the House. Let them roar. It is enough for Gaines that he will go ringing down into posterity as the matchless post-orator of all time. He is as unmoved by the shrieks of his unseemly colleagues as he is by the ignorance of those Tennesseans who have neglected to return him to Congress.

The President urges Congress to amend the interstate commerce law "so explicitly to empower the commission," etc. This is a signal victory for the Anti-Inflation Splitters' Union. It is palpable enough that in the old days the President would have said, "So as to explicitly empower."

The Cleveland Plain Dealer has a few remarks to make about "Charles B. Cortelyou." We take it that the Plain Dealer, being an Ohio paper, has got the Brother Charles idea on the brain.

"President, Rebukes Senate" and House "To Rebuke the President" are two headlines in adjoining columns of the New York Sun. When were there ever such rebuking days as these?

The Houston Post is of opinion that no character will ever hold an important elective office in this country. A chauffeur candidate would carry our money against an umpire any day.

Pheidippides. If we remember aught, ran his Marathon race so wholeheartedly that he died of it. It was the poor fellow's misfortune not to have a "manager."

It would be unfair, however, for Mr. Taft to form his opinion of "possum and linters from the low-grade article reared in Georgia."

Senator Tillman says that "Taft will never break the Solid South." Do you think there is any chance that he'll bend it, Senator?

Congress laughed at the President's message, but it remains to be seen who extracts the last laugh from the situation.

Scientists inform us that the January of Richmond comes very favorably with the Junes of Boston.

Many a taller monarch than Victor Emmanuel has been a far smaller King.

Up to the hour of going to press no one-checks had been mailed from 46 New York.

## Borrowed Jingles

### HE WANTS THE EARTH.

I am thinking of investing  
In some project that stands testing,  
You may think I am joking,  
When I say they're hard to find:  
But I look with dark suspicion  
On the paying proposition,  
Though I make that a condition  
And I want no other kind.

Under no known circumstances  
Am I willing to take chances,  
I distrust these wild romances,  
And promoters who all chat  
When I want them to assure me  
Of their soundness—to secure me  
For the thing that will allure me  
Must be absolutely true.

All the melons they divide up  
On the square are small and dried up,  
Must I keep my money tied up,  
With small profits be content?  
No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no,  
At the increase I am getting,  
For the most that I am getting  
Is a paltry 12 per cent.

—Chicago News.

### MERELY JOKING.

The Newbyweds' Christmas.  
The young husband's face was aflame  
With a delectable devotion.  
"Pussitall," he exclaimed, clasping her  
In his arms, "I'll make you  
The boys at the office say: 'And I'll smoke  
'em if they kill me.'—Chicago Tribune.

Alsen-Minded, Indeed.  
"Carson's the most absent-minded chap I ever saw."  
"That's been doing now."  
"This morning he thought he'd left his  
watch at home, and then proceeded to take  
it out of his pocket to see if he had time  
to go home and get it."—Hippocrite.

Removing a Blot.  
"Miser," inquired the tramp, "would  
you contribute a dollar to help beautify  
your town?"  
"What's the idea?"  
"The dollars I'll move on to de next  
town."—Pittsburg Post.

An Opinion.  
"What do you think of the theatrical  
company I'm backing?"  
"I think you'd better back 'em off the  
boards, answered his horse friend."—Pittsburg Post.

Discriminating.  
"She says she is not a woman to marry  
anybody."  
"I think she has fully demonstrated that.  
Three of her ex-husbands pay excellent  
attention to her, and she is something,  
I understand."—Washington Herald.

Human Nature.  
"Automobile jokes always go good," said  
the comedian with the seltzer siphon.  
"Yes, everybody has to pretend to under-  
stand them, and even the dumbest of them  
with the seltzer."—Kansas City Journal.

## HINTS FROM THE PARAGRAPHERS.

When we hear a girl refer to her  
dresses and shoes as frocks and boots  
we know her father is making more  
money than he uses. —Chicago State Journal.

"Later the President took a long cross-  
country horseback ride, and this ought to be  
stereotyped."—Boston Herald.

New times, new methods. What would  
Admiral Porter or Admiral Farragut have  
thought of the horseback or bicycle riding  
physical test?—New York Tribune.

Just because a man lives like a lord is no  
sign that he isn't as mean as the devil.  
—Dallas News.

At present the United States seems to be  
first in war, first in peace, and first in send-  
ing the home Ananias who gave Paul his  
delphia Inquirer.

Mr. Taft will make his first great stroke  
in breaking the Solid South when he dines  
on "possum and taters" at Atlanta January  
15.—New York World.

How much better known to fame the  
Ananias is for whom the clubs are named  
than the home Ananias who gave Paul his  
commission to preach.—Chicago Tribune.

Steel ships are more easily penetrated by  
rains, rocks, etc., than the old wooden bot-  
toms.

Claus Spreckels, the dead sugar king,  
came to this country from Germany at eight-  
teen years of age with \$2 in his pocket.

The largest cargo of ostrich feathers  
ever sold in London at once was the 105,000  
pounds disposed of at a recent auction sale.

The cost of the Simpson tunnel was \$15-  
000,000, and it is regarded as being one of  
the greatest engineering achievements of the  
age.

The Japanese custom of licensing individ-  
ual opium smokers has greatly reduced the  
amount of drug traffic in Japan, and espe-  
cially in Formosa.

Dr. E. M. C. Norman, who believed him-  
self to be a son of Marshal Ruff, died at  
his home in Seattle, Wash., last week, but  
two months of being 101 years old.

Montreal, with its winters of great severity,  
is 500 miles nearer the equator than is Lon-  
don, and it is the same in the same de-  
gree of latitude as Venice.

Telephones permanently secured to the  
chairs have been introduced into some of  
the hotels of London, and have been found  
to be a welcome innovation.

In 1907 Great Britain furnished 30,000  
bicycles to Japan, and in addition \$70,000  
worth of parts, while the United States fur-  
nished 3,213 bicycles and \$178,000 worth  
of parts.

George Chnet received \$10,000 for "The  
Porter Master" as a novel, and \$15,000 from  
it as a play in the first three months. Out  
of the play he made more than \$35,000.

Pope Pius X. has presented to his eldest  
nephew, Prince Louis, a magnificent estate.  
The building, which is of one story only, but  
has a beautiful garden, was bought by the  
pope for \$20,000 from a congregation of  
nuns.

## WARNING TO THE CHURCH.

Decrease in Number of Clergy Is With-  
out a Parallel.

A decrease in the number of the  
clergy in the Protestant Episcopal  
Church is reported in this year's issue  
of the Living Church, a church encyclo-  
pædia and directory, which has been  
published simultaneously in New  
York and Milwaukee by Thomas Whit-  
taker and the Young Churchman Com-  
pany. The editorial says:

"When we come to take a statisti-  
cal view of the church, the most glar-  
ing fact is that the church clergy list  
shows a decrease of thirteen names as  
compared with that of last year, and  
that there is a decrease of seventeen  
candidates for orders, though an in-  
crease of thirty-one in the number of  
postulants. That the clergy have not  
even held their own in number is an  
occurrence without parallel, at least  
for a long term of years.

"The first thought is that the scarcity  
of candidates for ordination has  
been accentuated even beyond its his-  
torical unfortunate degree. Further in-  
vestigation, however, does not bear out  
this fear. The number of names on the  
death roll of the clergy this year  
is greater by thirty than it was last  
year, and there have been fifteen more  
depositions than last year, while appar-  
ently the number of accessions to the  
clergy list by removal from England  
and Canada is less than usual.

"But, though these considerations  
somewhat explain the decrease in the  
clergy list, they only throw into still  
greater prominence the glaring fact  
that at least the supply of new can-  
didates is not sufficient to make good  
any extraordinary depletion such as  
that of the year past. Moreover, it is  
more and more difficult to find proper  
clergymen to place in charge of new  
work."

"The increase in parishes and mis-  
sions this year is only forty-four as  
compared with an increase of 129 in  
the year previous. It is obvious, in-  
deed, that there can be no material  
increase in the number of stations  
manned unless a larger number of can-  
didates offer for the work of the min-  
istry."—New York Tribune.

# The Courts of Europe

By La Marquise de Fontenay.

## The Dor Stukler.

THE recent divorce of Prince  
Yorck, illegitimate son of  
Emperor Alexander II. of Rus-  
sia, has attracted much of the  
attention to the blight which seems to  
dog the footsteps of these natural  
sons of the emperors of the East.  
In modern times the number of them  
has been overtaken by death through  
violence, by ruin, disgrace and misfor-  
tune, by kind or another. It was  
not always so, and the most cursory  
glance through the pages of history  
is all that is needed to show the im-  
mense scale of the misdeeds of these  
princes. The most famous of these  
princes have played in the annals of  
the past. Marshal de Saxe, one of  
the most celebrated generals of the  
eighteenth century, who de-  
feated the English at Luttrell, was  
the son of King Augustus the  
Strong of Poland. Ferdinand, Duke  
of Berwick, ancestor of the pres-  
ent Duke of Alba and of the  
Duke of Devonshire, and who was  
the most successful military com-  
mander in the Spanish War of Suc-  
cession, was the offspring of King  
James II. of England and of Anne  
Churchill, sister of the Duke of  
Marlborough. Don John of Austria,  
who destroyed the Ottoman fleet in  
the battle of Lepanto, was the son  
when 35,000 Turks were killed or cap-  
tured and 15,000 Christian galley  
slaves restored to liberty, was an il-  
legitimate son of Emperor Charles V.  
Dunois, associated with Joan of Arc  
in her victories, and who contributed  
more than any other to the victory  
of English in the Hundred Years  
War, was the illegitimate son of  
King Louis of France. Duke of  
Orleans, and used to pride him-  
self on his ancestry, was the son of  
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